

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02

DOE-15 CEQ-01 HA-05 /148 W

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R 151500Z MAY 78

FM USINT HAVANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1872

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T HAVANA 1251

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PARM, CU, UR

SUBJECT: CUBAN POSITION ON TLATELOLCO

REF: (A) STATE 107280 (NOTAL), (B) HAVANA 1230 (NOTAL)

1. I TOOK OCCASION OF MEETING MAY 12 WITH FIRST VICE-MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS RENE ANILLO TO RAISE ABOVE SUBJECT, REVIEWING SIGNIFICANCE OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND CURRENT PROSPECTS FOR THE TREATY. ESSENCE OF CUBAN POSITION AS STATED BY ANILLO IS THAT CUBA WILL NOT ADHERE TO TREATY AS LONG AS MAJOR, NEIGHBORING NUCLEAR STATE OCCUPIES GUANTANAMO AND MAINTAINS A "BLOCKADE" AGAINST CUBA. HE STRESSED THAT CUBA IS IN A UNIQUELY UNFAVORABLE POSITION IN LATIN AMERICA IN THIS REGARD.

2. THIS POSITION WAS MAINTAINED DESPITE MY EMPHASIS ON FACTS THAT CUBA'S OWN SECURITY WOULD BE ENHANCED BY ADHERENCE TO TREATY, THAT U.S. ACTION ON PROTOCOL ONE (WHICH I STRESSED WAS VERY SINCERE)

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MEETS THE OTHER OBJECTIONS CUBA HAS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED CONCERNING THE TREATY, THAT PROSPECTS ARE NOW GOOD THAT ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES OTHER THAN CUBA WILL ALSO SIGN AND/OR RATIFY, AND THAT RATIFICATION BY ALL OTHER PARTIES IS ESSENTIAL IF MAJOR NUCLEAR THREATS IN THE HEMISPHERE (NAMELY, THE ABC POWERS) ARE TO BE COUNDED BY THE TREATY. ANILLO DID NOT DISPUTE ANY OF THIS, EXCEPT THAT AT ONE POINT HE SAID ERRONEOUSLY THAT BRAZIL HAD NOT ADHERED TO THE

TREATY (I AGAIN POINTED OUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BRAZIL'S RESERVATION). BUT HE CAME BACK AGAIN TO THE EMBARGO AND GUANTANAMO AS MATTERS OF "PRINCIPLE" FOR CUBA. IF U.S. IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE TREATY AND DESIRES CUBA'S ACCESSION, ANILLO SAID THAT THE U.S. SHOULD MOVE TO ELIMINATE THESE PROBLEMS.

3. IN ANY CASE, THE VICE-MINISTER EMPHASIZED, CUBA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL NOT ITSELF DEVELOP OR STATION NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THIS ISLAND.

4. ANILLO VOLUNTEERED THAT DESPITE ITS OWN POSITION ON THE TREATY IT VIEWS THE RECENT SOVIET DECISION ON PROTOCOL TWO FAVORABLY AND IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE U.S.

5. COMMENT. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT AT THE PRESENT JUNCTURE IN U.S.-CUBAN RELATIONS, WE DO NOT HAVE MUCH CHANCE OF PERSUADING THE GOC TO ADHERE TO THE TREATY. OTHER LATIN AMERICAN STATES, ESPECIALLY MEXICO, AND PERHAPS THE SOVIET UNION ARE PRESUMABLY OUR BEST BETS TO LEAD CUBA IN THAT DIRECTION.

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